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FCC Mail Room

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Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations; (WT Proceeding - No. 11-65).

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to voice my support for the combination of AT&T and T-Mobile USA.

I strongly feel that such a combination will stimulate Maine's much-needed economic recovery, the equivalent of laying in an electronic "infrastructure." It will result in the companies building out a state-of-the-art mobile broadband network that provides the ability to deliver key healthcare, education and other social services.

Small businesses and other organizations would be able to use the kind of wireless services that today are mostly the exclusive domain of large businesses. A world-class broadband network would allow small Maine businesses to expand and compete more effectively in domestic and global markets.

An advanced mobile wireless network would also provide better access to high-quality distance learning and health programs. These services are especially crucial in Dixmont, Hampden and Newburgh – small towns I represent that lack access to specialized educational or medical programs. For example, wireless remote monitoring can automatically transfer patient data to medical personnel at another location in real time, improving patient care and lowering medical costs.

Government cannot effectively implement such advanced technology throughout the small towns and rural areas of Maine and the rest of the nation. We must leave it to the private sector, which has the incentives and expertise to successfully complete this.

The companies that undertake such technological efforts need size and scale, which is why this merger has been proposed. I support it and hope the FCC will as well with a timely approval of the companies' application.

Sincerely,

Andre E. Cushing, III
Assistant Majority Leader
House of Representatives
Maine State Legislature

CC:
Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell